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February 29, 2000 LB 149, 1107

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Huh? What?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: I'm sorry, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I wasn't...I wasn't clear, Senator Kristensen. I'd like to yield the rest of my time to Senator Wickersham.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Very good. Two minutes, Senator.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Okay. Senator Beutler, the first question wise to you asked, is it have an automatic...your characterization, an automatic preference for state aid to schools? My belief is that the...this Legislature settled that issue last year with the passage of LB 149. We settled that issue last year. We settled that issue based on a dollar maximum levy, that's true, and this would change the basis on which we set that commitment, but it only changes the basis on which we set that commitment, not the commitment. Estandpoint, that was a commitment that we had to make, make and did make last year. Is the commitment to a specific level of funding for any state aid program to any political subdivision, is there any other commitment that looks like this? There isn't any other commitment that is calculated like this, but there are other commitments for state aid that are in statute. The state aid commitment, for example, for counties is in statute at a specified dollar amount. In fact, there are a couple of different programs where we specify dollar amounts that are going to go to those kinds of programs. municipalities is a specified dollar amount set in statute. fact, you had a bill to change that process. Aid to NRDs is a So, in those instances, statutory amount. instead calculating amount, we have set a specific dollar amount in statute, so they look a little bit different in terms of the mechanism for determining the amount of money but, yes, there are other examples of state aid where the amounts are either set in statute or calculated in statute.